है। इसलिए हिन्दी भाषा को तूल दीजिये क्योंकि यह हमारी मातृभाषा है। आपने मेरे दो शब्द सुने, इसके लिए आपका धन्यवाद। ...(**व्यवधान**)

श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया : सभापति महोदय, मैं अपना सवाल करने से पहले यह अनुरोध करना चाहता हूं चेयरमैन साहब से कि उन्हें तीसरा पुरस्कार राज्यसभा से दे दिया जाए क्योंकि दो पुरस्कार तो मिल गये हैं, तीसरे की बड़ी इच्छा हो रही है। ऐसा लग रहा है कि जहां-जहां आपको पहले से खबर होती है कि यहां शत-प्रतिशत काम हो गया है, वहीं इस्पेक्शन हो रहा है, बाकी जगह नहीं हो रहा है। मुझे यह जानना है कि दक्षिण के राज्यों में जैसे आन्ध्र प्रदेश है, केरल है, कर्नाटक है, पांडिचेरी है, यहां एक भी इंस्पेक्शन नहीं हुआ। मैं मानता हूं, यह बधाई की बात है कि चेन्नई में हुआ और वहां शत-प्रतिशत हुआ, यह बड़ी खुशी की बात है लेकिन बाकी स्टेट्स में क्या हुआ और वेस्ट बंगाल में क्या हुआ?

श्री जगमोहन : मैंने पहले आपको बताया कि जो चीज़ फिक्स्ड है, उसके हिसाब से कर रहे हैं। अब साऊथ में जैसे चेन्नई में सब जगह हुई है। आप जिस जगह कहते हैं उस जगह करवा देता हूं, अभी करवा देता हूं।

श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया : एक ही स्टेट में नहीं, पॉकेट्स में करवाइये।

श्री जगमोहन : स्केल फिक्स्ड है।...(**व्यवधान**)

Use of tobacco

*524. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that only the Legislatures of four States i.e. UP, Punjab, Goa and West Bengal have passed resolutions to adopt the Central legislation to discourage the use of tobacco and its products;

(b) whether his Ministry did not pursue the matter with the remaining States to fall in line; and

(c) if so, what have been their reactions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) A comprehensive legislation on Tobacco was introduced by the Government in the Rajya Sabha on the 7th March 2001, and covers cigarettes as well as other product containing tobacco. Cigarettes are in the concurrent list and as such, the Parliament is empowered to legislate on the subject of cigarettes. However, as far as other tobacco products are concerned, these fall within the purview of the State list and as per the provisions of Article 252(1) of the Constitution of India, the resolutions from the Legislatures of at least two states are required if the Parliament is to prepare and consider passing of a legislation on the subject.

In this connection, resolutions were sought from the states and four states, i.e. the states of West Bengal, Goa, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab passed such resolution in their legislatures. A number of other states have expressed their support and have given outline of the steps being taken by them against the ill effects of tobacco. Further, though it is true that only four states have passed resolutions in order to adopt the central legislation on other tobacco products at the present time, other states can be asked to adopt the law as and when it is passed by the Parliament and is enacted.

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Sir, I give no background. I just put my supplementary straightaway. I am so happy that the Government is seized of the problem of the ill-affects of tobacco use. Four States, including my State, have given their full support to this legislation. Now, my question is: India is the third largest cigarette manufacturing country in the world. Once it is banned, many workers will become unemployed. So, what alternative strategies have been adopted to protect the livelihood of tobacco growers and, more importantly, what research has been undertaken to find out alternative uses of tobacco. This is my first supplementary.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, the proposed Bill, which is pending before this House and which has been referred to the Standing Committee, wants to impose a ban on smoking at public places and ban on sale to minors, and other things. But, the Government is not intending to fully curb the tobacco industry and cultivation. As such, we are not

considering any alternative uses of tobacco. However, the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Agriculture are being consulted to find out as to what could be the alternative. The Ministry of Labour has opined that the adverse effect of such a legislation on the livelihood of the labour force could not be ignored. We propose to have a consultation with these Ministries. After that, we will come out either with a statement or with other appropriate things.

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: I want to know what the outcome is. And also, Sir, no research is being done on the alternative uses of tobacco.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, a study is being carried out by the Agriculture Ministry and the Labour Ministry—Labour Ministry so far as the industry is concerned, and Agriculture Ministry so far as the growers are concerned. We are awaiting the Report from these Ministries. As soon as the Report comes to us, we will consider that.

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Sir, the legislation is against cigarettes. Cigarette is in the Concurrent List. So, the Central Government has also a responsibility.

My second supplementary is: How the Ministry is dealing with the import of foreign cigarettes? As we all know, after liberalisation, the export of cigarettes from the developed countries has increased very much. The four major cigarette-manufacturing companies are: Phillip Morris, BAT, China National Tobacco and Japan Tobacco. With the liberalisation and looking at the levels of tobacco trade, these cigarettes will come and those who like or prefer foreign cigarettes will get it at a cheaper rate. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps the Government propose to take to counter the flooding of foreign cigarettes in the Indian market.

SHRI A. RAJA: The question relates to the control on tobacco usage in the country. This supplementary does not arise out of the main question. I request the hon. Member to put a separate question. I will answer that ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, notwithstanding exports and imports we are imposing some conditions on its usage.

SHRI B.J. PANDA: Sir, elsewhere the hon. Minister has stated that one-third of the cancer cases in our country is related to tobacco use. This is a serious matter and the only reason that we have not been able to make more progress in legislating against this is that there are very powerful vested interests working against it. My question to the hon. Minister is, what are the existing provisions in the law where steps can be taken, while we are awaiting the passage of this new legislation, and what steps the Ministry is taking towards this. If he could clarify whether the Kerala High Court has passed a judgment which provides for certain action that can be taken in this regard.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, the Bill is pending before the House and, as such, the Bill is the property of this House. While drafting the Bill, the sentiments and *obiter dicta* which have been expressed by the High Court of Kerala, have been taken into consideration. After taking into consideration the judgment of the Kerala High Court, the Bill was devised and the same is pending before Parliament. We will be having plenty of time to discuss it after the Committee submits its Report.

SHRI B.J. PANDA: Sir, my question was, what steps are being taken now and what are the existing provisions in the law?

SHRI A. RAJA: I think the hon. Member wants the text of the Bill.

SHRI EDUARDO FLEIRO: No, no.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no.

SHRI A. RAJA: I think this is a unique and comprehensive law to control the tobacco usage. One more law is there, that is, the Cigarette (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 1975, which deals only with incorporating a statutory warning on the products "Cigarette smoking is injurious to health".

श्री शत्रुघ्न सिन्हा: सभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या इन्हें यह पता है कि सन् 2020 में कुछ आंकड़ों के हिसाब से दुनिया में जितनी मौतें होंगी होमीसाइड, एक्सीडेंट्स एबॉर्शन से लेकर एचआईवी पाज़िटिव और एॅडज़ तक उससे ज्यादा मौतें टोबैको रिलेटेड डिज़ीज़ से होंगी? अगर पता है तो फिर यह भी पता होगा कि

हिन्दुस्तान में जितने कैंसर पेशेंट्स हैं उनमें ऐसा मानना है कि 70 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा लोग ओरल कैंसर के शिकार हैं, जो कि टोबैको रिलेटेड डिज़ीज़ है, तो इसकी रोकथाम के लिए आप क्या कर रहे हैं? क्या ऐसी कोई प्रणाली या ऐसा कोई इनका इरादा है जिसकी वजह से यह सिर्फ घोषणा न हो कि सिगरेट के लिए बिल लाया जा रहा है? इसके लिए क्या पुलिस के जरिए कोई बैनिंग संभव है और क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय को ऐसी कोई अपील की जा रही है कि सिगरेट के बारे में एॅड या विज्ञापन वगैरह जो दिए जाते हैं वे न दिए जाएं? इससे भी बढ़ कर सब से महत्वपूर्ण बात यह है कि बाहर जो हम सिगरेट बंद करने की या टोबैको बंद करने की बात कह रहे हैं, तो क्या मंत्री महोदय का ऐसा कोई इरादा है कि पार्लियामेंट के परिसर में, जहां सब से ज्यादा टोबैको या सिगरेट का जो इस्तेमाल होता है, पहले यहां बंद करें, क्योंकि चैरिटी बिगिन्ज़ एट होम? क्या ऐसा कोई इरादा है, अगर नहीं है तो क्यों?

SHRI A RAJA: Sir, so far as diseases related tobacco consumption are concerned, we have not found that tobacco consumption is responsible for HIV infection. However, the diseases associated with tobacco consumption are cancer, heart diseases, respiratory and peripheral vascular diseases.

CHAIRMAN : He is asking, "What can you do?" Can you do something in Parliament?

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, we have already banned advertisements on TV and other broadcasting channels. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA: Have you banned the use of tobacco and smoking inside the premises of Parliament? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, we are waiting for a direction from the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think, hon. Members and कैंटीन से संबंधित कमेटी जो है वह भी बैठ कर तय करे कि यहां सिगरेट आदि पीने नहीं देना है।...(**व्यवधान**)

श्री लछमन सिंह : पहले सैन्ट्रल हाल में तो बंद करें।...(**व्यवधान**)

श्री शत्रुघ्न सिन्हा : सर, आप इस बात को अच्छी तरह से समझते हैं कि टोबैको का यूज़ कितना हानिकारक है और आपको पता है कि बहुत सारे लोग, हमारे अपने दोस्त, हर पार्टी के लोग और हमारी अपनी पार्टी के लोग भी यहां आकर हम से पूछते हैं कि तंबाकू या खैनी खाइएगा और यहां पर ज़र्दा, पान मसाला, पान बहार सब चलता है। कितना अच्छा हो अगर

यही पार्लियामेंट से हम लोग देश की दशा और दिशा को ठीक करें और अगर नहीं कर पाते हैं तो हम दूसरों से क्या अपील करेंगे और क्या अपेक्षा करेंगे? सभापति महोदय, क्या इसके लिए आप कुछ कर सकते हैं?

श्री सभापति : मैंने तो कहा है कि हमारी कमेटी है...(**व्यवधान**)

एक माननीय सदस्य : आपका हुक्म चलता है।

श्री सभापति : मैं डिक्टेटर नहीं हूं...(**व्यवधान**)

श्री शत्रुघ्न सिन्हा : मैं स्वयं बाहर से डेढ़ किलो धुआं लेकर आता हूं। बाहर हर तरफ एशट्रे रखी हुई है और आप यहां बिल बना रहे हैं। सभापति जी, इसके लिए आप कुछ कीजिए...(**व्यवधान**)

SHRI JIBON ROY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the time is almost over. My point is that the tobacco industry employs the largest work force in India. It is a traditional industry, and *bidi* is a home industry. Before passing this Bill, you should take a comprehensive view of the economy, as to how you can give alternative employment to them. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Construction of houses for urban poor in Assam

*525. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have chalked out any plan for construction of houses for the urban people living below poverty line in the State of Assam;

(b) if so, the estimated number of houses to be constructed in various cities of the State; and

(c) the total requirement of houses to be constructed during the Ninth Plan in the State of Assam?